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| U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE | | NRCS-CPA-53 12-02 | | Name: Douglas and Kathy Fir | |
| CONSERVATION EFFECTS BENCHMARK MANAGEMENT SYSTEM | | | | Address: 612 Plantation Pine Road Birch, USA 31100 | |
| Resource Setting: Forest unit (3) – Shade-intolerant 4-8" dbh conifers occupy east facing steep slopes (25-40%). The area has extensive mortality from bark beetles and tree competition creating slash and debris that pose a significant wildfire risk. "High-graded" bottomland hardwoods occupy 0-2% along Noname Creek. The stream crossing consists of an old, undersized culvert that has been damaged by flooding and is acting as a barrier to fish movement. Tree removal from riparian areas has reduced shade and increased stream water temperatures. Stream banks are eroding in several spots. These conditions have decreased suitable trout habitat and populations have declined. East and upslope of Noname creek, the slopes range from 10-20%. All merchantable conifers and hardwoods were harvested 5 years ago. The site is now occupied with herbaceous, shrub and undesirable hardwood tree species. Roads and skid trails have numerous areas of excessive erosion partially caused by trespass of 4WD vehicles. | | | Resource Concerns Before Treatment: <i>Eastern slopes</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant management; pests Plant management; establishment, growth and harvest (forest) Human, economic; risk (wildfire) <i>Bottomland area</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant condition; productivity (forest) Water quality, surface; water temperature Soil erosion; stream bank Soil erosion; road banks (culvert) Animal habitat, management; (fish) <i>Western slopes</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soil erosion; classic gully (trails) Plant suitability; growth and development (forest) Human, economic; profitability Human, social; client well being | | |
| Benchmark (Present management system) | | | | | |
| Actions - Present Management (kinds, amounts, and timing) | | | Effects (Effects of continuing the benchmark system) | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 560; 655 (some areas are not being adequately treated) | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> low trout populations fish movement barriers in stream poor timber production potential low wildlife numbers high wildfire danger near headquarters lack of economic returns eroding trails, roads, and landings causing gullies trespassing by 4WD vehicles | | |
| Comments: This forest unit is very diverse and may need additional conservation treatment units established. Nature Conservancy Land adjoins the bottomland area at the south end. | | | | | |